

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-07 L-03 SS-20 NSC-07 SPC-03

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R 220743Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 752

S E C R E T TOKYO 3780

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR JA

SUBJ: PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE CONCERNING SAFASIA

REFS: A. TOKYO 3218 B. STATE 50997; C. STATE 57385

FOL MSG FM CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER HI SENT ACTION CINCPAC HONO-
LULU HI INFO COMUSJAPAN FUCHU AS JAPAN, AMEMB TOKYO, DA WASHDC,
CDR USARJ CP ZAMA JAPAN, CDR USARBCO SUKIRAN JAPAN, CDR 1ST
SFGP (ABN) FT BUCKNER OKI ON MAR 9TH RPTD FOR YOUR INFO
PER REF C ABOVE QTE

CINCPAC FOR J-74

SUBJ: PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE WITH Q'S AND A'S (U)

A. MY 210017Z DEC 73 (S), SUBJ: REALIGNMENT OF USARPAC SECURITY
ASSISTANCE FORCES (NOTAL)

B. DA 151951Z JAN 74 (U). SUBJ: REALIGNMENT OF USARPAC SECURITY
ASSISTANCE FORCES (NOTAL)

C. CINCPAC 070126Z FEB 74 (S), SUBJ: REALIGNMENT OF USARPAC
SECURITY ASSISTANCE FORCES (NOTAL)

D. MY 150950Z FEB 74 (S), SUBJ: REDEPLOYMENT OF SECURITY ASSIS-
TANCE FORCE ASIA (SAFASIA) (C) (NOTAL)

E. DA 011731Z MAR 74 (S), SUBJ: SPECIAL FORCES AND RELATED UNITS
IN PACOM (U) (NOTAL)

F. USARJ 070620Z MAR 74 (S), SUBJ: LIMITED RELEASE AUTHORITY
(NOTAL)

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1. (S) REF A DISCUSSES IMPACT OF POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT OF SAFASIA

OPR/TNG; CONCLUDES THIS PRESSURE DENIGRATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEANINGFUL EMPLOYMENT/TRAINING; RECOMMENDS SAFASIA BE REDEPLOYED TO CONUS; AND THAT SUBSEQUENT PACOM REQUIREMENTS FOR SAFASIA-TYPE SKILLS BE PROVIDED FROM CONUS ASSETS. REFS B AND C CONCUR IN CONCEPT OF REF A FOR REDEPLOYMENT OF SAFASIA FORCES, OKINAWA. REF D RECOMMENDS SAFASIA BE REDEPLOYED NOT 30 JUN 74 AND PROVIDES AN OPERATIONAL SCENARIO FOR CONUS SUPPORT OF ONGOING SAFASIA TRAINING COMMITMENTS REF E STATES FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ASSUME THAT 1ST SFGP (

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WILL BE INACTIVATED ON 30 JUN 74 AND THAT ANY UW FORCES FOR PACOM CONTINGENCIES WILL BE PROVIDED BY FT BRAGG UNITS. REF F ALLUDES TO SPECULATIVE JAPANESE PRESS ARTICLES CONCERNING REALIGNMENT OF U.S. MILITARY FORCES ON OKINAWA, CITES POTENTIAL CONSTRUCTION CHANGES AS REINFORCEMENT OF PRESS SPECULATIONS AND SEEKS APPROVAL OF LIMITED, CLOSE-HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH JGS OFFICIALS PENDING PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.

2. (S) ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE IN REF A FAVORS JOINT PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AT OPPORTUNE TIME DETERMINED BY EMBASSY AND GOJ OF THE FORTHCOMING REDEPLOYMENT OF SAFASIA WITH INFO COPY OF TEXT AND Q'S AND A'S USED DISPATCHED TO ALCON.

3. (S) PROPOSED RELEASE: QUOTE AS A RESULT OF CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES ON THE PRESENCE OF U.S. MILITARY FORCES IN JAPAN, IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT SECURITY ASSISTANCE FORCES ASIA WHICH INCLUDES THE 1ST SPECIAL FORCES GROUP, OKINAWA AND ITS AUGMENTATION UNITS WILL BE REDEPLOYED FROM JAPAN BY JUNE 30, 1974. THIS REDEPLOYMENT ACTION AFFECTS 1,053 SAFASIA PERSONNEL AND 515 DEPENDENT FAMILIES. UNQUOTE.

4. (S) PROPOSED Q'S AND A'S:

A. WHERE WILL THESE MILITARY PERSONNEL BE REASSIGNED? ANS: THEY WILL BE REASSIGNED AS REQUIRED THROUGHOUT THE ARMY.

B. WILL THE 1ST SPECIAL FORCES GROUP REMAIN AS AN ACTIVE U.S. ARMY UNIT? ANS: NO. IT WILL BE INACTIVATED AND ITS COLORS RETIRED

C. HOW MANY DEPENDENTS WILL BE AFFECTED BY THIS REDEPLOYMENT? ANS: 1,355.

D. WHAT SPECIAL FORCES UNITS WILL REMAIN IN JAPAN? ANS: NONE.

E. SAFASIA PERSONNEL HAVE PROVIDED CONSIDERABLE DISASTER ASSISTANCE IN RECENT YEARS TO PACIFIC AND ASIAN COUNTRIES; WHO WILL PROVIDE THIS TYPE OF ASSISTANCE IN THE FUTURE? ANS: ALL U.S. MILITARY

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FORCES IN THE PACIFIC ARE CAPABLE OF PROVIDING DISASTER ASSISTANCE, AND OF COURSE, RESOURCES IN THE U.S. ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE.

F. WHAT ARE THE DOLLAR SAVINGS TO BE ACHIEVED FROM THIS REDEPLOYMENT? ANS: SAVINGS TO FY75 U.S. ARMY, PACIFIC OPERATING APPROPRIATIONS WILL APPROXIMATE \$1.5 MILLIONS.

G. WILL THE FACILITIES OCCUPIED ON OKINAWA BY SAFASIA BE RETURNED TO GOJ? ANS: FACILITIES UTILIZED BY U.S. MILITARY FORCES JAPAN ARE UNDER CONTINUOUS REVIEW AND, AS YOU KNOW, SURPLUS FACILI-

TIES ARE BEING RETURNED PROMPTLY TO THE GOJ.

H. WHAT SPECIFIC UNITS ARE TO BE INACTIVATED? ANS: THE 1ST SPECIAL FORCES GROUP HQ AND HQ COMPANY; 1ST AND 2ND SPECIAL FORCES BATTALIONS; THE 1ST SPECIAL FORCES SUPPORT BATTALION; 441ST MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DETACHMENT; 539TH ENGINEER DETACHMENT; AND THE 1ST CIVIL AFFAIRS BATTALION.

I. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE VACANCIES (SPACES) CREATED BY THESE INACTIVATIONS? ANS: THE VACANCIES (SPACES) WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY TO INCREASE THE STRENGTH OF THE U.S. ARMY BEYOND THE CURRENT 13 DIVISION LEVEL.

5. IN RESPONSE TO REF F, THIS HQ INTERPOSES NO OBJECTION TO LIMITED, CLOSE-HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH JGS PROVIDED COMUSJAPAN AND EMBASSY CONCUR.

6. GDS 83 OR UPON PUBLIC DISCLOSURE UNQTE

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